in which it has recommended that A-320 aircraft could be re-inducted in a phased manner after implementing the recommendations of the Committee. The Government have accepted the recommendations of the Committee. Indian Airlines is taking necessary steps and is fully geared to implement the recommendations of the Committee. The operation of the A-320 fleet is expected to be resumed in a phased manner shortly.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No hasty decision is being taken in the matter.

(e) The report of the Ramdas Committee has been made available to the Parliament Library. As stated above, Indian Airlines is taking necessary steps to implement the recommendations of the Committee.

(f) On certain assumptions, the loss by way of reduction in cash surplus due to the non-operation of the A-320 fleet is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 60 crores for the period upto 31st July, 1990.

Production of PTFE

925. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd., has planned to process the Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE);

(b) whether it is also a fact that HFL has planned to fix the seeling price of PTEE at Rs. 500/- per Kg. which is their cost of production and some grades of their PTFE are of inferior quality;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for production of PTFE by HFL at considerable loss;

(d) whether it is a fact that the CIF cost of imported PTFE is less than that of being produced by HFL; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons for allowing HFL to manufacture PTFE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI BHAJMAN BEHERA): (a) M/s. Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd. has planted to set up an Application Development Centre which will also have facilities to process PTFE for critical applications which would be import substitution.

(b) M/s. HFL sells various grades of virgin PTFE at prices ranging from Rs. 375 to Rs. 550 per Kg.

(c) to (e) The cost of production is high mainly due to high capital cost, consequent higher interest, depreciation charges and high cost of raw materials and power. M/s HFL is undertaking financial and technical measures to improve its performance.

Consumers' views on drug industry

926. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 26th July, 1990 captioned "Centre may issue notice to drug industry soon";

(b) if so, when were the meetings of consumer, trade and industry held and what were the detailed charges made by consumers against industry;

(c) what were their specific views on overcharging, unintended benefits, marketing of medicines manufactured by small scale and organised sector; trade commissions, marketing of irrational combinations, wholesale price index, production of formulations based on imported drugs and imported intermediates;

(d) what is his Ministry's reaction thereto and what steps are being taken to safeguard the interest of consumers; and

(e) what are the details of demand of 150 crores rupees made on the industry and by when the claim of another 150 crore rupees would be made?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. This news item appeared on 29-7-1990 in Hindustan Times.

(b) to (d) Various interest groups were invited to elicit their views on the proposed review of drug policy. These groups presented their view points on different aspects of the drug policy and these will be taken into account at the time of review.

(e) The process of finalising the liabilities upto 1983 and assessing the liabilities thereafter in accordance with the due process of law is already on.

National Convention on Traditional Medicine and Maternal and Child Health Care

927. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry co-sponsored a national convention on Traditional Medicine and Maternal and Child Health Care from the 14th to 17th December, 1989 in Delhi;

(b) if so, what were the main recommendations made in this convention; and

(c) whether these recommendations are proposed to be incorporated in the Eight Five Year Plan programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Some officers of the Ministry attended the convention though the Ministry did not give any financial assistance for it.

(b) and (c) The convention recommended the use of Indian Systems of Medicine and local health traditions in programmes relating to maternal and child health.

It is the policy of the Government to make use of the Indian Systems of Medicine in health programmes to the extent feasible.

Criticism of new industrial policy

928. SHRI M. M. JACOB:
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI JAGADISH JANI:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved a new industrial policy for the country;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the widespread criticism of the new industrial policy which encourage the involvement of multi-nationals in a big way in the country's industrial projects; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Within the broad framework of the existing industrial policy of the Govt. of India as enunciated in the industrial policy resolution of 1956 an as elaborated from time to time, the Government has recently taken some decisions which have been laid in the form of paper on the Table of both Houses of Parliament on 31st May, 1990. The paper is titled "Policy measures for the promotion of small scale and agro based industries and changes in procedures for industrial approvals".